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Mexico's Pena Nieto seeks US help on violence

MEXICO CITY (AFP) - Mexico's presumed president-elect Enrique Pena Nieto expressed hope yesterday for more US help in tamping a scourge of violence that has killed over 50,000 people in less than five years.

While Washington is focused on cracking down on

crime syndicates responsible for smuggling illegal drugs into the United States, Mexico is more keen on halting the flow of weapons into the country from its northern neighbor, saying the arms are fueling the bloody drug war.

Continued on page 6

Motorist beware: More streets to be closed off!

Kazernestraat and Emmastraat partially to be closed off to traffic for six weeks starting Wednesday, July 4th

ORANJESTAD – The Department of Public works DOW wishes to inform the public, mainly those who make use of the center of Oranjestad, that as of coming Wednesday, July 4th the streets Kazernestraat and Emmastraat partially will be closed off to all motorist for the duration of six weeks. The motive is to finish the works of laying down the foundation for the rails for the streetcar in the mainstreet of Downtown. The changes will be indicated with traffic signs and fences.

DOW wishes to apologize for any inconvenience these changes may cause.

Soccer Camp conducted by famed Dutch Football star Andre Ooijer begins this week

Aruba's Minister of Public Health and Sport, Dr. Richard Visser, was proud to welcome back Andre Ooijer, one of the team members that took Holland to the Semi Final matches in the World Cup 2010 and who scored against Brazil during the stunning upset game.

Ooijers and three of his teammates took up an offer from Prime Minister Mike Eman at the time to take a vacation on Aruba as guests of the island, after their hard-won victory. Minister Dr. Visser reported the Ooijer and his family particularly loved Aruba, and was very agreeable to the idea of returning and working with island youngsters by conducting a Soccer Camp, which he did last summer.

Ooijer began playing football when he was five years old and at twelve started playing for amateur clubs SDW and SDZ. He signed on at hometown club Ajax Amsterdam during the 1986-87 season, featured for the reserve team. He played his last professional game for AFC Ajax on May 2, 2012 against VVV-Venlo. He arrived on Sunday with his wife Joyce and daughters Demi and Danique to enjoy the summer school break and again conduct the Andre Ooijer Summer Soccer Camp. Dr. Visser was at the Reina Beatrix International Airport to greet the family.

The program is offered without fee to island youngsters between the ages of seven and seventeen; last year they expected 50 campers and ended up with 100, this year they already have 140 signed up, and suspect they will have more by the time the sessions start on Wednesday, July 4. "This usually happens, many



come who did not pre-register, but we won't turn any child away," commented Dr. Visser.

This year, a tournament has been added to the program, with island teams consisting of youngsters ages 15 to 17 competing for the "Andre Ooijer Cup." Trophies will be awarded for the boys' and girls' first place teams. The finals will

take place on Sunday, July 8, at the Frans Figaroa Stadium in Noord, where the camp is being conducted.

During his time in the region, he is scheduled to fly to Bonaire and conduct a soccer camp for young players on that island as well.

by Rosalie Klein

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Abolition of Slavery remembered by Aruba



Minister President Mark Rutte, President of the House of Representatives Gerdi Verbeet and Aruba Minister Plenipotentiary. Edwin Abath



Last Sunday, July 1st, the Minister Plenipotentiary, Edwin Abath, stationed in the Netherlands, representing the government and people of Aruba, placed a wreath at the National Monument of the Abolition of Slavery at Westerpark in the city of Amsterdam.

Since the unveiling of the "Slavernijmonument" (Slave Monument) in 2002, the commemoration and national celebration of the Abolition of Slavery by Holland (July 1,

1863), is visited every year by a growing number of visitors. This year's commemoration attendance numbered several thousand visitors.

The commemoration ceremony was opened by Marian Markelo with a "Winti" rite, which is a Surinam's tradition asking for protection from one and all willing to live in freedom and unity.

The Prime Minister of the Netherlands, Mark Rutte, was also in attendance for the commemoration. In his words... "Slavery in our country and in other parts of the Dutch Kingdom, for many years was considered very common. But, slavery is something non-human. Slavery reduced people to merchandise, where a small group took advantage of this. We remember today, with great respect, all the women, the men and the children who from one moment to another could no longer decide anything about their own lives. It is our obligation to make everyone aware of this. The history of slavery is the history of us all. It is a dark page in our history that we must never forget."

The first wreath laid at the Slave Monument was placed by the Prime Minister, Mr. Rutte together with the President of the House of Representatives, Mrs. Gerdi Verbeet. This was followed by the Plenipotentiary Minister of Aruba, Edwin Abath, then by St. Maarten and Curacao.

The Mayor of Amsterdam, Eberhard van der Laan together with Law Keeper Andree van Es placed a wreath representing the municipality of Amsterdam.

At the end of the commemoration, the festival of "Kei Koti" (the broken chains) began with different musical presentations. This was accompanied by presentations from talented Aruban hip hopper, Zanillya Farrel.

Best VWO graduate receives diploma and gift from PM



On Friday evening in a packed auditorium at the prestigious Renaissance Convention Center, parents, teachers and family members were proud witnesses of an important moment in the lives of many Aruban young people. Young graduates of the Colegio Arubano, Aruba's premiere upper level high school, were proud to receive their hard earned diplomas. With diploma in hand, their next step now is to move on to advanced studies either here at home or abroad.

The Aruba Prime Minister had the honor of presenting the best VWO graduate his diploma. The timid 18 year old Chesron Elgin was the proud recipient of the best VWO graduate award with his proud parents at his side on the platform. His transcript glowed with a large list of nines and

even one ten (10 being the highest mark in the Dutch grading system). The Prime Minister handed Chesron a portrait taken in City Hall where he stood together with the PM.

Chesron also received a lovely memento with an inscription in glass with the words: "...the future is in your hands. The future belongs to those who believe in the beauty of their dreams. Believe in your dreams and make them a reality."

The PM reminded all the graduates to "...not forget Aruba when you complete your studies. Aruba needs your expertise and help." He appealed to our graduates to be sure and return to Aruba to put their new knowledge into practice here so as to benefit our island and its people.

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Prime Minister Mike Eman gives lecture at Massachusetts Institute of Technology

Together with Professor Amitai Etzioni, Prime Minister Eman describes Communitarianism in Action in Aruba



CAMBRIDGE, Massachusetts -- On June 28, Prime Minister Eman gave a lecture at the prestigious Massachusetts Institute of Technology (MIT) before a select group of scholars from around the world (China, Mexico, Spain and of course the United States, among others) at part of the 24th Annual Conference of the

Society for the Advancement of Socio-Economics (SASE). The theme of the Conference was: "Global Shifts: Implications for Business, Government and Labour." Minister Eman spoke at the same event with the renowned Sociologist and Professor Amitai Etzioni, considered to be the founder and leader of the communitarian movement.

Minister Eman lectured on the topic of "Communitarianism in Action: The Case of Aruba and Building Stronger Communities." Unlike many of the lecturers, who focused solely on theoretical aspects of the topic, Minister Eman was the only one, who gave vivid and concrete examples of government policies that were putting into practice successfully the principles of communitarianism.

He began by describing Aruba's successful transition to a tourism based economy following the closure of the oil refinery in 1986, and going from 2,000 to nearly 8,000 hotel rooms. Since entering office in 2009, however, the Government decided that the way forward would be to focus on quality rather than quantity as additional hotel rooms can provide only diminishing economic returns.

The Prime Minister said that tourism had provided great material advances for the people of Aruba, but he was concerned that the quality of life of Arubans had not kept pace with these financial and material gains over the last 25 years. He said in Aruba, "We have star hotels, but I want to see 5 star homes for the elderly, 5 star hospitals and 5 star schools too." Prime Minister Eman explained the guiding phrase for this in Aruba, "A dushi Aruba to live is a dushi Aruba for visitors." He added, "I deliberately



place the emphasis on first creating an Aruba that has a high quality of life for Arubans, for it naturally follows that it also will be a pleasant Aruba for tourists and visitors."

He said he saw families working harder, but having less time together. According to Prime Minister Eman, "We cannot turn back the clock to a time when families and neighbors were spending more time together and looking out for one another, but I believe Go-

vernment can help create the conditions that can promote greater social cohesion and sense of community."

He went on to describe the programs in Aruba that are encouraging families and neighbors to spend more time visiting and talking with one another, such as Bo Barrio and allowing neighborhood youth to paint homes in the community and restore a sense of belonging and pride.

Continued on page 4



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Prime Minister Eman shared plans for restoration of JFK School with the Kennedys

Plans include a new building for the JFK Community Auditorium

BOSTON, Massachusetts -- On June 28, Prime Minister Eman visited with the Kennedy family and shared with them Aruba's plans to restore the John F. Kennedy School. Joseph P. Kennedy II and his wife Beth were moved by the Aruba's plans to restore the JFK School to a place of prominence of Aruba. Former U.S. Congressman Kennedy, the second of Robert F. Kennedy's eleven children, had visited Aruba previously upon the invitation of Prime Minister Eman, and recounted many pleasant memories of that visit.

They were very pleased to hear of the many positive developments on the Island and look forward to returning for the inauguration of the restored JFK School. Joe Kennedy was very impressed with Aruba's urban renewal plan and the positive effects it was having on the Aruban economy. He also was quite interested in the success of Aruba in maintaining a high sovereign credit rating at a time when many countries are being downgraded.

As the head of an important energy company in Boston, Mr. Kennedy expressed great interest in Aruba's efforts to move towards renewable energy. Kennedy is the Founder, Chairman and President of Citizens Energy Corporation, a well known non-profit corporation dedicated to providing low priced heating oil to low income families, and other innovative programs to assist the poor.

Prime Minister Eman presented the Kennedys with framed photographs of Mrs. Ethel Kennedy, the widow of

RFK, receiving a symbolic Divi Divi Tree last year from the Prime Minister. Prime Minister Eman presented Mrs. Kennedy with the gift in recognition of RFK's inspiring words to respect nature and to focus on more than mere numerical measurements of achievement such as GDP, which fails to measure those things in life that are most important.

Joe Kennedy presented the Prime Minister with a framed photograph of a campaign poster of RFK meeting with coal miners during his campaign for U.S. President in 1968, which had the caption: "It is OK to care" in recognition of RFK's well known empathy for those with difficult jobs or those less fortunate.

Mike Eman and Joe Kennedy are both members of multi-generational families dedicated to public service, and they reflected on their similar paths, their shared ideals for improving the quality of life of all people and the challenges ahead in the world.

PM Eman gives lecture . . .

Continued from page 3

He also described the extensive urban renewal program to build more open spaces where people can meet in pleasant surroundings, such as restored plazas in downtown Oranjestad, or can exercise together in the world's longest linear park. He also described the new street car that will bring more visitors to the downtown area to revitalize for Arubans and tourists alike.

At the conclusion of the lecture, Professor Etzioni

Cas Animal Foundation receives international recognition and sponsorship

For 15 years, Cas Animal founder Kristen Arndt has been struggling to maintain a shelter for Aruba's stray and abused dogs and cats, making ends meet and raising the funds for a proper facility by selling off all her personal property and dedicating her days to garnering sponsorship and support.

It has been difficult, as there are many worthy foundations on Aruba dedicated to assisting the handicapped, elderly, environment, you-name-it, all with an important purpose, so it is often the tendency of those solicited for donations to put canines and cats last after people, which is utterly understandable.

Kiki has relied greatly on



Kiki with Sander van Hesteren, Jan Krol and Peter Helmer

protecting animals of all kinds. Recently, she welcomed Jan Krol and Sander van Hesteren of DierenLot and Peter Helmer of the WWAR, who inspected

able to comfortably house over 200 abandoned dogs. This has become her mission in life since ten years ago, as her collection of refugees grew beyond what her home can fully accommodate.

Cas Animal Doggy Hotline is 742-8732 to report an animal in distress. Donations are welcome, as the daily costs for feeding the more than 70 dogs now sheltered is astronomical, as well as their veterinary bills to restore them to good health. If anyone wishes to help, payment to the Cas Animal Foundation account is welcome, or payments to the foundation's accounts at Contreras Veterinary Clinics in Shaba or Savaneta, or to Animal Care Clinic in Paradera, phone number 582-8382, would be just as effective.

Direct donations should be made to Cas Animal Foundation, CMB Bank account # 25762110. If you are not an island resident and wish to adopt a dog, Kiki has many that could use a good home and will assist you in the process, as it is much easier to return to the U.S. with an Aruban dog than you might think. They require examination and certification by a qualified vet to pass quarantine standards prior to departure; Kiki will also help in obtaining a dog transport and getting them to the airport, if needed.

by Rosalie Klein



With the soon to be fully outfitted Animal Ambulance

the kind concern of dog-loving island visitors and residents who understand that these poor abandoned animals are frequently neglected or mistreated, when all they wish to do is love someone who will be kind to them. She is one of those people who cannot turn away when she sees this; she has to take them home and rehabilitate them, physically and emotionally.

Finally, Kiki has received recognition for her dedication, along with assistance from World Wide Animal Rescue (WWAR) through DierenLot, a Dutch organization dedicated to

her operation and agreed to sponsor a desperately needed new Animal Ambulance, which was kindly provided at cost by KIA Motors at Top Car, a division of Jolly Holding.

WWAR has paid for the ambulance and will sponsor proper lighting, signage, and alterations to the truck bed to fit kennels so the dogs can be transported safely. This is a great boon for Cas Animal, which is waiting to break ground on building a fully functional proper no-kill dog refuge in Kibaima, as soon as the DOW settles on the parameters of the proposed Green Corridor from Oranjestad to San Nicolas. Here Kiki will be



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Bon Bini Festival is tonight



The weekly Bon Bini Festival takes place tonight at the Fort Zoutman in Wilhelminastraat. Bon Bini Festival is the only weekly folkloric event on the island. Come mingle with the locals and enjoy a taste of Aruban culture.

This week the festival will feature music by the traditional Aruba caha di orgel, folkloric music, dance performance and brass band.

During the festival there will be local food, sweets and traditional local arts and crafts on sale.

Arubus has regular busses from all hotels areas to Oranjestad Central Terminal, which is only a short walk from Fort Zoutman. Round trip bus fare is \$2.30. The festival is from 6:30 pm to 8:30 pm. Entrance fee is \$3.

Come and experience a taste of our 'dushi' Aruba



Microsoft to take \$6.2 bn writeoff for online unit

NEW YORK (AFP) - Microsoft said yesterday it would take a \$6.2 billion writedown to reflect the slump in value of its online services division.

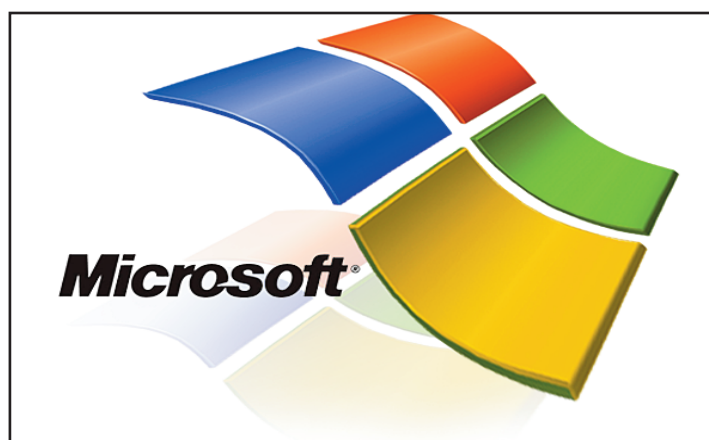
The charge reflects a write-down related to 2007 acquisition of aQuantive, a digital advertising firm aimed at helping Microsoft compete against Google and others.

The charge, to be reflected in the company's upcoming earnings report, is required under accounting rules to reflect a lower value or so called "goodwill impairment."

"The goodwill in the Online Services Division was substantially the result of the 2007 acquisition of aQuantive," Microsoft said.

"As a result of its 2012 impairment review, Microsoft has determined that a writedown of its Online Services Division goodwill of approximately \$6.2 billion is required."

Microsoft announced the deal in August 2007 in a move aimed at seizing market share from rivals Yahoo! and Google in the lucrative market that tailors advertising to Internet



search results.

Despite the writedown, Mi-

crosoft said the share of Internet search from its Bing unit

has been increasing, and that revenue per search has also been growing.

"MSN is the number one portal in 29 markets worldwide and the company's partnership with Yahoo! has continued to expand geographically," Microsoft said in a statement.

"While the Online Services Division business has been improving, the company's expectations for future growth and profitability are lower than previous estimates."

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TUESDAY AND FRIDAY: LIVE MUSIC

INTERNATIONAL NEWS

Japan defeats proposal for Atlantic sanctuary

PANAMA CITY, Panama (AFP) - Japan and its allies yesterday shot down a Latin American proposal to create a sanctuary for whales in the southern Atlantic Ocean, reigniting international tensions over Tokyo's whaling.

The International Whaling Commission, which has long been torn by disputes, fell into familiar divisions just hours after senior officials opened the main session of their annual meeting in Panama City.

Argentina, Brazil, South Africa and Uruguay put forward a proposal to declare the southern Atlantic a no-kill zone for whales, a largely symbolic measure as no whaling takes place there now.

Thirty-eight countries voted in favor of the measure and 21 voted against, with two abstentions. Under the rules of the

Commission, proposals needs to enjoy a "consensus" of 75 percent support for approval.

Jose Truda Palazzo, who spearheaded the proposal for the southern Atlantic sanctuary when he was Brazil's representative to the International Whaling Commission, blamed nations that receive Japanese aid for scuttling the proposal.

"Japan doesn't want to give an inch on anything that may compromise their ability to roam the world doing whaling as they see fit," said Palazzo, who is now at Brazil's non-governmental Cetacean Conservation Center.

"You can't really believe that Nauru or Tuvalu has an interest or has studied the sanctuary. They are voting because Japan tells them to," he said.

Japan each year kills hundreds of whales in Antarctic

waters that are already considered a sanctuary, infuriating Australia and New Zealand where whale-watching is a growing industry.

Japan says it is technically abiding by a 1986 moratorium on commercial whaling set by the commission as it uses a clause that allows lethal research on the ocean giants, with the meat then going to consumption.

Japan argues that whaling is part of its culture and accuses Western nations of insensitivity. Environmentalists say that few Japanese eat whale and that the country's position is driven by its powerful fishing industry.

Norway and Iceland are the only countries that openly defy the whaling moratorium, although their hunts are confined to nearby waters.

Obama congratulates Mexican president-elect in call

WASHINGTON (AFP) - US President Barack Obama called Mexico's president-elect Enrique Pena Nieto yesterday to congratulate him on an election win which returned the once-reviled Institutional Revolutionary Party to power.

"The President reiterated his commitment to working in partnership with Mexico, and looks forward to advancing common goals," a White House statement said.

Those goals include "promoting democracy, economic prosperity, and security in the region and around the globe," the statement said.

"The President also congratulated the Mexican people who have once again demonstrated their commitment to democratic values through a free, fair, and transparent election process," it added.

Mexico and the United States, major trade partners

and allies, have a constant dialogue on the vicious drugs war raging in Mexico, much of it over substances destined for American users.

Pena Nieto declared victory in the presidential election late Sunday, after first official results showed him with 38 percent of the vote, ending more than a decade in the political wilderness for the PRI.

His nearest rival, leftist Andres Manuel Lopez Obrador from the Party of the Democratic Revolution (PRD), took 31 percent but refused to concede the race, claiming to have data showing different results.

The PRI was synonymous with the Mexican state as it governed for seven decades until 2000 using a mixture of patronage and selective repression -- isolating political foes through bought elections and skewed media coverage.

Pena Nieto seeks US help . . .

Continued from page 1

"As part of our agenda with the US government, we must focus on a more efficient way of fighting (the drug trade) to reduce the level of violence," Pena Nieto told a group of foreign reporters.

Pena Nieto said he will maintain President Felipe Calderon's strategy of using the military to target drug cartels and capture top criminals. But

he vowed to focus on quickly bringing down the number of killings and kidnappings.

"Society clearly expects immediate short-term results... like a lower rate of crime and kidnapping," Pena Nieto said.

Washington must also understand "where our priorities lie, which is in containing the violence" affecting vast regions of Mexico, Pena Nieto said.

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Cockeysville : A group of kids jump into a quarry lake at the Beaver Dam Swimming Club July 2, 2012 in Cockeysville, Maryland. Residents of the Baltimore and Washington area continue to seek ways to avoid the heat with electrical power knocked out by storms 3 days ago still impacting almost half a million people. (AFP)



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Libya releases ICC legal team

ZINTAN, Libya (AFP) - Yesterday Libya freed four envoys of the International Criminal Court who had been detained after visiting a son of slain dictator Moamer Kadhafi last month, officials said.

"The four members (of the ICC team) were released," Ajmi al-Atiri, commander of a brigade holding Seif al-Islam Kadhafi, told journalists in Zintan, southwest of Tripoli.

The four, including Australian lawyer Melinda Taylor, had been held in Zintan since June 7 after travelling to the hilltop town to help prepare Seif al-Islam's defence.

Taylor was accused of carrying a pen camera and attempting to give Seif al-Islam a coded letter from his former right-hand man, Mohammed Ismail, who is wanted by the Libyan authorities.

The other three detained ICC staffers are Taylor's interpreter from Lebanon, Helen Assaf, and two colleagues,

Russian Alexander Khodakov and Esteban Peralta Losilla from Spain.

The ambassadors of all countries concerned were present during the release.

Libyan Deputy Foreign Minister Mohammed Abdel Aziz said the ICC envoys would leave the North African country later yesterday, as part of an agreement that his government reached with The Hague-based court.

ICC president Sang-Hyung Song, speaking at the same news conference in Zintan, thanked the Libyan authorities for mediating the release of the court's legal team.

"The ICC is grateful to the Libyan authorities for making the necessary arrangements to allow the release of the ICC members," Song said.

"I wish to apologise for the difficulties which arose due to these events. There will be an investigation following the return of (the ICC) members to

The Hague. Any member found with any misconduct will face appropriate sanction."

The ordeal of the ICC legal team might not be over just yet.

Abdel Aziz said the four had been summoned to a Libyan court on July 23 to complete the judicial process which was set in motion by the prosecutor general's investigations.

Any verdict would be transferred by the ICC for follow-up, he said, adding: "The ICC has agreed to keep Libyan authorities informed on the results of its investigations."

It was unclear whether they would have to return to Libya for the case or be tried in absentia.

Libyan officials have said that the actions of the ICC team represented a "breach of national security," a matter Tripoli did not take lightly, despite its declared commitment to cooperate with the court.

INTERNATIONAL NEWS

'Leap second' wreaks Internet havoc

WASHINGTON (AFP) - An adjustment of a mere second in the official global clock sent dozens of websites crashing in an incident reminiscent of the Y2K bug over a decade ago.

The "leap second" was added to the Coordinated Universal Time to adjust clocks to the earth's rotation the night of June 30, delaying for one second the transition to July 1.

The extra second was too much for some software to handle.

Reddit, a social news network, posted a Twitter message, saying "We are having some Java/Cassandra issues related to the leap second."

A later message by Reddit attempted to make fun of the issue: "You ever wish you had an extra second or two? This is not one of those times."

Mozilla, the organization behind the Firefox browser, also had problems.

"Java is choking on leap second," said Mozilla engineer Eric Ziegenhorn, who noted that some services using the Java software platform were malfunctioning.

The outages came roughly at the same time as a major US storm which knocked out power to an Amazon data storage site which serves as cloud host for many websites, including Netflix.

Some sites such as the so-

cial network Foursquare said it was affected by the Amazon outage.

LinkedIn, the professional social network, said its service was down on Saturday, without elaborating.

"Some of you may have experienced difficulty accessing the site. Our team is working on it now. Stay tuned for more," LinkedIn said on Twitter.

The Australian airline Qantas reported delays which some media said were due to a software problem with the Amadeus reservation system, impacted by the leap second.

Google went in prepared for the latest of 25 leap seconds added since 1972, having identified problems in 2008 and developing "one of our coolest workarounds."

"The solution we came up with came to be known as the 'leap smear,'" Google engineer Christopher Pascoe said in posting last year.

We modified our internal NTP servers to gradually add a couple of milliseconds to every update... Google engineers developing code don't have to worry about leap seconds."

The problems evoked the so-called bug from the year 2000, when computer systems designed for years expressed in two digits such as 99 for 1999 had to be adapted to four digits.



COLOMBIA : Edison Antonio Pelaez, aka "Mincho", allegedly emerging as the successor to Javier Antonio Calle Serna, alias "Comba", maximum leader of "Los Rastrojos" drug traffickers gang, is presented to the press at the anti-narcotics air base in Bogotá, on July 2, 2012. Pelaez, who was captured on June 29 in the municipality of Montenegro, Colombian department of Quindío, was charged with aggravated conspiracy and drug trafficking and is being investigated for his involvement in almost 30 murders.
 (AFP PHOTO)



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Health & Living

Indian teen girl kills father, brother over affair



PATNA, India (AFP) - Police arrested a teenage girl in eastern India on charges of killing her father and brother who opposed her affair with a lower-caste boy, in a reversal of the usual "honour killing" scenario.

According to police, the 14-year-old confessed Sunday after her arrest to mixing poison with a vegetable curry that she served to her father and younger brother who both died after consuming the dish.

The girl's mother, Sunita Devi, told police she survived because she had been ill and refused to eat the food.

"The girl took this extreme step as her family members, including father, brother and mother, were... against her love affair with a boy and her plans to marry him," senior police officer Upendra Kumar Sinha told AFP.

The boy was a member of India's Dalit community.

Dalits, or "untouchables" as they used to be known, occupy the lowest rung in India's rigid caste hierarchy. Most live in poverty and do menial, supposedly "unclean" jobs like collecting garbage.

The girl's family, which belong to a higher caste, had previously beaten the boy when the couple were caught trying to elope.

Such incidents resulting from disputed inter-caste relationships more commonly see male family members murdering their daughter or sister for bringing "dishonour" on the family.

There are no official figures on honour killings, though an independent study in 2010 suggested as many as 900 were committed every year in the northern Indian states of Haryana, Punjab and Uttar Pradesh.

Philippines to vaccinate 700,000 babies



MANILA (AFP) - Philippine President Benigno Aquino said Monday the government would vaccinate 700,000 babies this year to protect them from a virus that causes diarrhoea, a killer disease ravaging poor communities.

While diarrhoea is a preventable disease, Aquino said health authorities had struggled to stop outbreaks from

happening with many poor communities having no access to basic medical care.

"In the Philippines alone, thousands of children suffer from diarrhoea each year, with over 3,500 cases leading to death," Aquino said.

"For this year, 700,000 infants from families listed in our national household targeting system will be vaccinated," he said.

He said the vaccines would address infections from rotavirus, the most common cause of severe diarrhoea in babies and children aged five and below.

According to the United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF), diarrhoea is the third leading cause of child illness and the fourth leading cause of deaths among children less than five years in the Philippines.

World has 5 mn test tube people: estimate



Professor Robert Edwards, Lesley Brown, Louise Brown, the world's first "test tube baby" with her son Cameron. Photo taken 12 July 2008.

PARIS (AFP) - In-vitro fertilisation (IVF) has given the world about five million new people since the first test tube baby was born in England 34 years ago, according to an estimate released on Monday.

As the initial controversy over man's scientific manipulation of nature has faded, about 350,000 babies conceived in petri dishes are now born every year, said the European Society of Human Reproduction and Embryology (ESHRE).

That represents about 0.3 percent of the 130-million-odd babies added to the world population annually.

"Millions of families with children have been created, thereby reducing the burden of infertility," said David Adamson, chairman of the International Committee for Monitoring Assisted Reproductive Technologies (ICMART).

IVF, which involves placing an egg and sperm together in a petri dish for conception, and a sub-category known as ICSI (intracytoplasmic sperm injection) where the sperm is inserted with a micro-needle directly into the egg, have become commonplace.

But it has proven controversial over the years, with some fearing it paved the way for so-called designer babies whose characteristics are cho-

sen by parents.

The Vatican considers it immoral because of the wastage of a large number of embryos, and the procedure has been criticised for allowing women to have children until a much older age.

The birth estimate was done by ICMART for the 28th annual meeting of ESHRE which opened in Istanbul, Turkey, on Sunday.

It was based on the number of IVF and ICSI treatments recorded worldwide up to 2008, and estimates for the years thereafter for which confirmed figures are not yet available.

The data showed that about 1.5 million IVF and ICSI treatments are now administered around the world every year -- more than a third of them in Europe.

Success rates have stabilised, with about a third of fertilised embryos implanted resulting in a live birth.

ESHRE said there was a trend in Europe to implant fewer embryos at a time, causing a drop in multiple births which carry a higher risk of complications for the mother, a lower baby birth weight, and developmental difficulties.

The number of triplets has fallen below one percent, said the statement, "and for the first time, the twin delivery rate was below 20 percent."



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Kim Jong-Il ordered uranium bombs: reports

TOKYO (AFP) - The late North Korean leader Kim Jong-Il ordered his scientists to produce "a massive amount" of uranium bombs, according to internal regime documents, reports in Japan said Monday.

Pyeongyang has long maintained that it was enriching uranium solely for the purpose of power generation, despite widespread suspicion in the outside world.

But the document, detailing domestic and foreign policies, said Kim Jong-Il -- who died in December -- ordered the production of nuclear weapons using both uranium and plutonium.

It refers to spot inspections

on uranium-enrichment facilities carried out by US experts in November 2010, which followed plutonium bomb tests in 2006 and 2009.

"To tell the truth... (the late leader said) we are not waiting for the uranium-enriching technology to develop so it can be put to use by civilian industries" such as power generation, the paper quoted it as saying.

"From a military point of view, it is a matter of course that we should use plutonium and highly-enriched uranium for atomic bombs," the document reportedly said, adding Kim Jong-Il gave subordinates "a concrete task to produce a massive amount of nuclear

weapons".

The Mainichi said the document was believed to be intended to make it clear to party cadres that new leader Kim Jong-Un had inherited his late father's strategy of attempting to develop nuclear weapons to protect his regime.

The Tokyo Shimbun said it was the first time that explicit instructions from Kim Jong-Il on developing uranium bombs had come to light.

It suggested there was little hope for any dramatic change in foreign policy under Kim Jong-Un for the time being, the paper added.



ZHEZKAZGAN, Kazakhstan : International Space Station (ISS) Dutch crew member and Flight Engineer Andre Kuipers of the European Space Agency waves shortly after the landing of Soyuz TMA-03M capsule in a remote area near the town of Dzhezkazgan on July 1, 2012. Pettit, together with Oleg Kononenko of Roscosmos and Andre Kuipers of the European Space Agency, completed a six-and-a-half-month mission on the International Space Station, according to NASA.
AFP PHOTO

Guinness says Philippine croc world's largest



MANILA (AFP) - A saltwater crocodile weighing more than a tonne and suspected of killing two people in the Philippines has been declared the largest such reptile in captivity by the Guinness Book of World Records.

The 6.17-metre (20.24-foot) male, nicknamed "Lolong", was captured in the Agusan marsh on the southern island of Mindanao last September after a two-year search following the killing of a girl and the disappearance of a fisherman.

"The largest crocodile in captivity is Lolong, a saltwater crocodile (*Crocodylus porosus*), who measured 6.17 m," Guinness said on its website.

"Lolong's weight was also measured at a nearby truck weigh-bridge and verified as approximately 1,075 kg (2,370 lbs)."

Welinda Asis Elorde, media

affairs coordinator for the town of Bunawan, which has custody of the new record-holder, said Monday the local government had received an official certification from Guinness.

At first, Lolong was fed the equivalent of 10 percent of his body weight in beef, pork and poultry every month, but an expert put him on a diet of eight to 10 kilograms a week to get him to be more active, she added.

The expert also recommended that the meat be given with skin and feathers attached, to help digestion.

The Guinness record was previously held by Cassius, a 5.48-metre Australian saltwater crocodile weighing close to a tonne.

Cassius has been kept at a crocodile park at an island off Queensland since his capture in the Northern Territory in 1984.

Northeast India floods kill 79, displace two million



GUWAHATI, India (AFP) - At least 79 people have died and 2.2 million forced to leave their homes over the last week as torrential monsoon rains triggered floods across India's northeast, officials said Monday.

Assam state, which borders Bhutan and Bangladesh, has been worst hit with the massive Brahmaputra river breaching its banks, while extensive flooding has also hit the states of Arunachal Pradesh and Manipur.

The Assam state government said 26 of 27 districts had endured flash floods as heavy rains destroyed thousands of flimsy homes, blocked roads

and swamped fields.

"So far 79 people have died in separate incidents of boat capsizing or have drowned while trying to escape the gushing waters and also in landslides," state authorities said in a statement.

The statement added that an estimated 2.2 million people had been displaced, with thousands of homes wrecked and more than 500,000 people being sheltered in relief camps.

"We have opened makeshift relief camps for the displaced, while many more were forced to take shelter on raised platforms and in tarpaulin tents," Assam's health minister Hi-

manta Biswa Sarma told AFP.

Officials said more than 70 percent of the Kaziranga National Park, famous for its tigers, one-horned rhinos and elephants, was submerged under water.

"The animals are trying to move to safer areas," park warden Sanjib Bora told AFP.

Prime Minister Manmohan Singh and the Congress party president Sonia Gandhi visited Assam on Monday to take an aerial survey and inspect relief work.

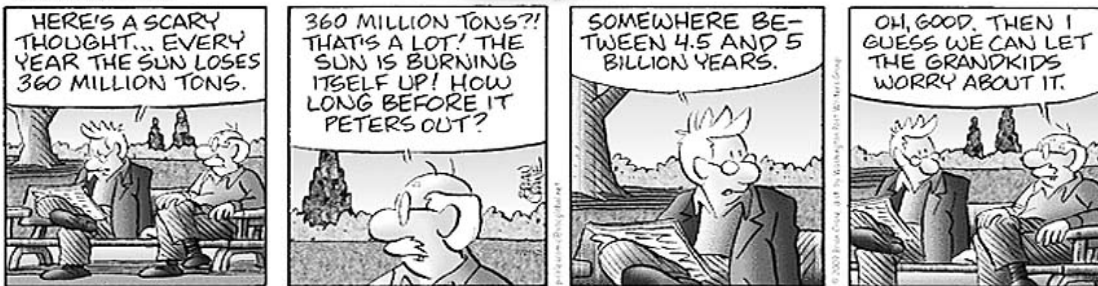
In the adjoining states of Arunachal Pradesh and Manipur, monsoon rains caused widespread flooding but there were no reported deaths.

The monsoon, which sweeps across the sub-continent from June to September, is crucial for the region's farmers but also claims casualties from flooding every year.

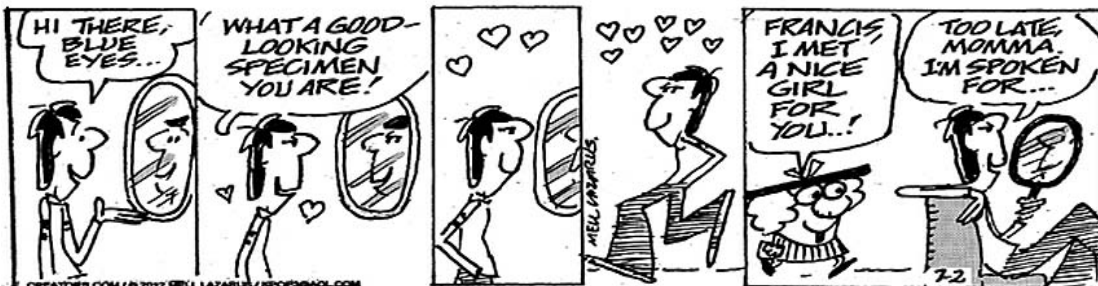


COMICS

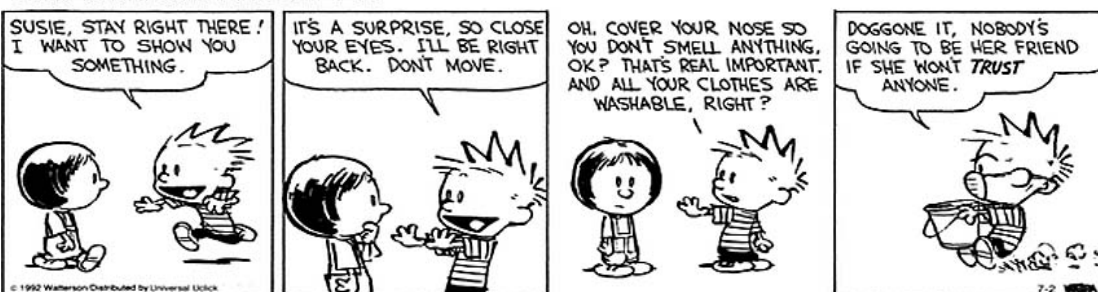
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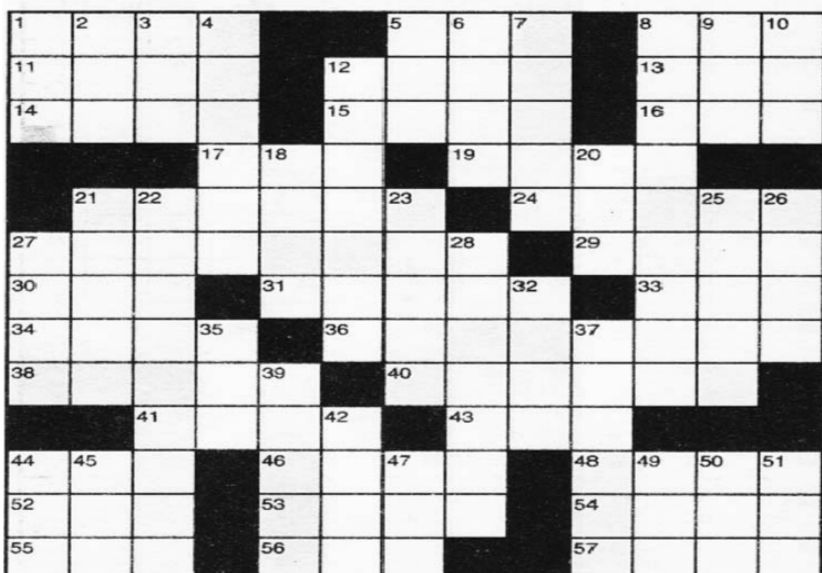
1. Gymnast Korbuto
5. Fore's opposite
8. Angled annex
11. Metallic wrap
12. Ship's front
13. Grassland
14. Casserole ingredient
15. Gumbo vegetable
16. Blubber
17. Rodent
19. Ore site
21. Foolish people
24. Salamanders
27. Buyer
29. Cleveland's state
30. Canadian
31. London goodbyes (2 wds.)
33. Alter
34. Generations
36. Toddlers
38. Flashlight, in England
40. Loud sleeper
41. Contended
43. Ending for suburban or meteor
44. Busy buzzer
46. Composer Ellington
48. "Party of Five" actress

52. Campbell Raggedy
53. Exit
54. Business bigwigs (abbr.)
55. Citrus beverage
56. Brayer on the farm
57. Pitch in

DOWN

1. Frequently, in poetry
2. Baseball's Gehrig
3. Martini ingredient
4. Frightens

5. Biblical vessel
6. Application paper
7. Author Mark
8. "St. ___" (TV oldie)
9. MGM lion
10. Dr. Frankenstein's rm.
12. D.C.'s river
18. Join
20. Recent (prefix)
21. Type of drum
22. Come between
23. Green and Rogen
25. Golfer Woods
26. Shortly
27. Dog's fur
28. Monaco's prince
32. Pay phone feature
35. Biology, e.g. (abbr.)
37. Make very wet
39. "___ Gabler"
42. Twosomes
44. Meadow noise
45. Complete
47. Boxing results (abbr.)
49. Width of Shaq's shoes
50. Ency. unit
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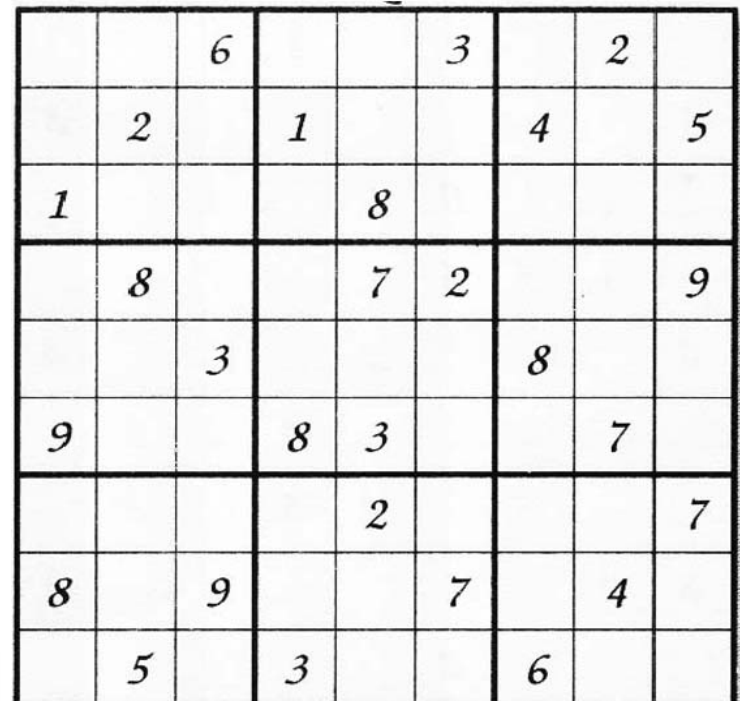
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5	7	2	1	3	6	9	8	4
3	5	6	8	2	9	1	7	4
7	2	5	9	6	8	3	1	4
2	9	8	1	5	6	4	7	3
6	1	5	2	7	4	9	8	3
9	6	2	5	8	7	3	1	4
5	7	4	6	9	1	8	2	3
8	2	1	5	7	9	6	3	4

Complete the grid so that every row and every column contains the numbers 1 through 9
A number is Never repeated in a row or column.
In addition every rectangle must contain the numbers 1 through 9

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Shell, BASF ordered to pay \$500 mln in Brazil pollution case

BRASILIA (AFP) - A Brazilian judge has ordered oil giant Shell and chemical behemoth BASF to pay \$500 million in compensation for hundreds of ex-workers suing for damages in a suspected plant contamination case, a judicial source said yesterday.

Labor judge Ines Correa Cerqueira from the town of Paulinia in Sao Paulo state ruled that the two foreign companies must deposit \$500 million in a compensation fund pending the outcome of the class action lawsuit, according to the source who spoke on condition of anonymity.

Prosecutors in May pressed for the money to be deposited in the fund to ensure that the ex-workers get medical treatment while awaiting a final ruling in the case.

Anglo-Dutch Shell and Germany's BASF were accused five years ago of contaminating workers at a plant in Paulinia, located 102 kilometers (63 miles) from Sao Paulo, which was closed in 2002.

The source said the labor judge also agreed to expand the number of plaintiffs in the case from the initial 772 to 1,142.

In a statement, Shell said it would fight the decision, arguing that the list of beneficiaries of the fund included "people who did not prove that they had any link with the firms."

The ex-workers blamed their health problems on prolonged handling of chemicals.

The two companies were also accused of contaminating ground water near the plant.

"Several tests determined that there was contamination of the water, air and ground (by toxic chemicals), and that as a result many people suffered from prostate cancer and thyroid gland problems. So far we have counted 61 dead," Clarissa Ribeiro, a prosecutor in the case, said in May.

Lower courts had ordered the two firms to cover the costs of medical treatment.

The case was appealed to the higher court in Brasilia, which is to issue a final ruling at an unspecified time.

Shell owned the plant from 1974 to 1995, when it sold it to US conglomerate Cyanamid. BASF, world's leading chemical company, bought the plant in 2000.

GlaxoSmithKline fined \$3bn in US

NEW YORK (AFP) - Glaxo-SmithKline was socked with \$3 billion in fines by US authorities yesterday over charges it marketed drugs for unauthorized uses, held back safety data, and cheated the government's Medicaid program.

The Justice Department said GSK was fined over misbranding its drugs Paxil and Wellbutrin, and for holding back data while making unbacked claims for its diabetes drug Avandia.

GSK pleaded guilty and agreed to the fines in what the department called the largest health care fraud settlement in US history.

GSK, one of the world's largest health care and pharmaceuticals companies, admitted to charges that it had promoted antidepressants Paxil and Wellbutrin for uses not approved for by US regulators, including treatment of children and adolescents.

The British drugmaker also conceded charges that it held back data and made un-

Finance

New World Bank chief warns on euro-zone crisis

WASHINGTON (AFP) - New World Bank chief Jim Yong Kim warned yesterday that the eurozone financial crisis poses a deep risk for the global economy and said it was urgent that European countries act to restore stability.

In a statement marking his first day on the job, Kim said the world's economy "remains highly vulnerable."

The World Bank has "an economic and moral imperative to help address risks to

global growth, no matter where they emerge," he said.

"A strong global economy benefits all countries; a weak global economy makes all countries vulnerable."

"It is urgent that European countries take all necessary measures to restore stability because their actions will impact growth in all regions of the world."

Kim, a physician and global health specialist who was chosen over two respected economists for the position, said his immediate priority would be "to help developing countries maintain progress against poverty in these volatile times."

"I will work with our clients and partners to ensure that we are creating a new economic firewall: one that protects people in developing countries against shocks."

"I know from my work in poor communities around the world that, when a crisis hits, and no safety net is in place, the effects can be devastating."

His focus on threats spilling out of the eurozone echoed his predecessor, Robert Zoellick, who repeatedly in recent months stressed the danger posed by the euro crisis and indecisiveness by European leaders to the rest of the world.

"We're waiting for Europe to tell us what it is going to do," Zoellick said during the Group of 20 summit in Los Cabos, Mexico, in mid-June, which was focused on getting concrete action in Europe.

"Markets can manage risks that they're well aware of. The danger we're creating is that the pattern of policy making is increasing uncertainty and making markets more nervous, which has a negative feedback," he warned.

Airbus to build planes in US

NEW YORK (AFP) - European planemaker Airbus unveiled plans to open a factory on Boeing's home turf yesterday, a gambit that would see the firm roll out its first US-built plane by 2016.

"The time is right for Airbus to expand in America," said Fabrice Bregier, Airbus president and chief executive.

The new assembly plant, to be built in the southern Gulf Coast port city of Mobile, Alabama, could more than double Airbus's market share in the huge market, the company said.

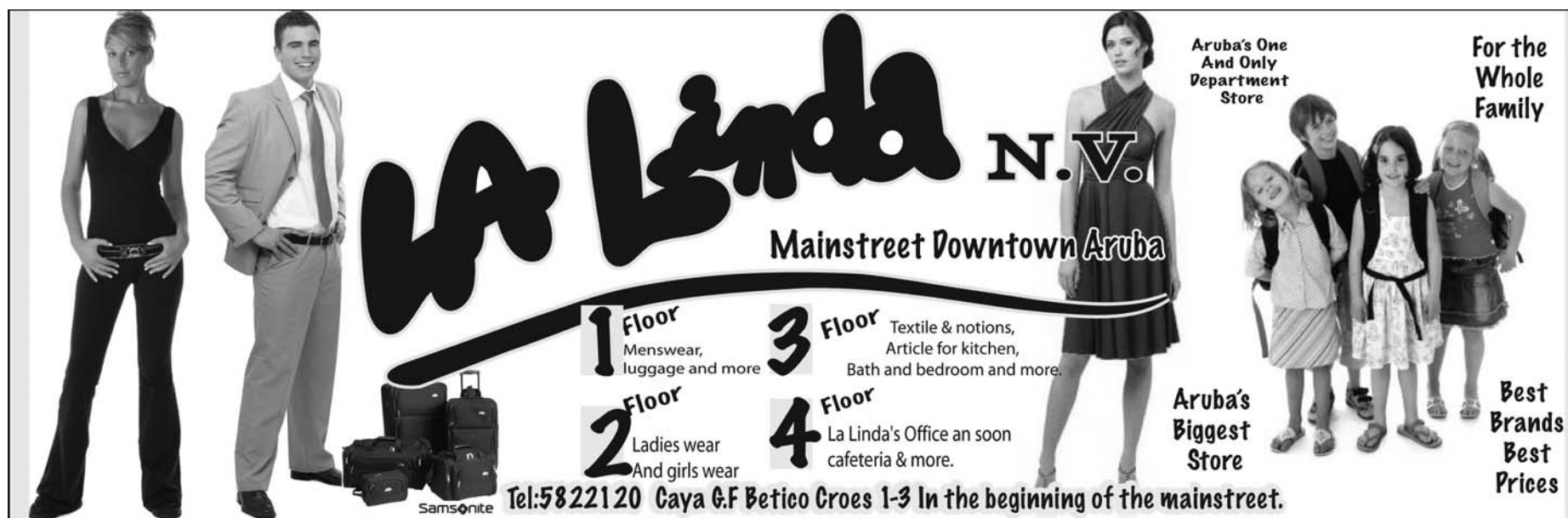
DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC OF THE CONGO : A FP photo shows a man holding new Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC) 1000 francs (CDF) bank notes on July 2, 2012 in Kinshasa. The DRC yesterday issued three new bank notes, 1000, 5000 and 10000 CDF (around 1, 5 and 10 US dollars) to ease transactions and fight against the so-called dollarization of the national economy.



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Britain	GBP	2.72	2.77	2.83
Switzerland	CHF	186.49	187.21	188.01
Netherlands	EUR	222.26	224.29	226.54
Sweden	SEK	24.66	25.38	26.18
Denmark	DKK	29.20	29.92	30.72
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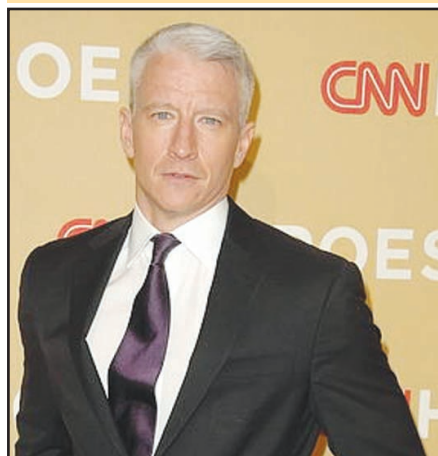
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'Proud' CNN host Cooper confirms he is gay



LOS ANGELES (AFP) - CNN presenter and journalist Anderson Cooper outed himself as gay Monday, saying he "couldn't be any more happy, comfortable with myself, and proud."

The 45-year-old confirmed what for many was common knowledge in an email to a journalist for The Daily Beast online who had asked Cooper to comment on the issue of celebrities coming out.

"Even though my job puts me in the public eye, I have tried to maintain some level of privacy in my life. Part of that has been for purely personal reasons," he wrote to journalist Andrew Sullivan.

"I think most people want some privacy for themselves and the people they are close to," he added in the email, published on the British journalist's "The Dish" blog on the Daily Beast.

But said Cooper: "Recently... I've begun to consider whether the unintended outcomes of maintaining my privacy outweigh personal and professional principle."

"It's become clear to me that by remaining silent on certain aspects of my personal life for so long, I have given some the mistaken impression that I am trying to hide something -- something that makes me uncomfortable, ashamed or even afraid. This is distress-

ing because it is simply not true.

He continued: "The fact is, I'm gay, always have been, always will be, and I couldn't be any more happy, comfortable with myself, and proud."

Cooper is the main anchor of the daily news show "Anderson Cooper 360" on CNN, but also had a syndicated daytime talk show, "Anderson."

His comments came after an article last week in "Entertainment Weekly" highlight-

ing an emerging trend for gay people in public life to come out in a more restrained way than in the past.

The CNN presenter said in his email published Monday: "I have always been very open and honest about this part of my life with my friends, my family, and my colleagues."

"In a perfect world, I don't think it's anyone else's business, but I do think there is value in standing up and being counted. I'm not an activist, but I am a human being and I don't give that up by being a journalist."



VATICAN CITY (AFP) - Pope Benedict XVI on Monday appointed German archbishop Ludwig Muller to head up the Vatican's orthodoxy watchdog, replacing American Cardinal William Levada who is retiring from the post. The Archbishop of Regensburg in southern Germany, Muller has a reputation as a defender of Catholic Orthodoxy and has been criticised by German groups clamouring for change, such as "Die Kirche von unten" (The Church from below). A personal friend of the German-born pope, who charged him with publishing his writings, Muller is however also known for his long-standing support for Gustavo Gutierrez, founder of the socialist Liberation theology movement. Muller, 64, takes over at the helm of the Congregation of the Doctrine of the Faith, which plays a key role in the Vatican's governing body, holding the diverse theological initiatives within the global Catholic church to account. He is expected to take up the post in the next few days when Levada retires. The watchdog cracks down on dissident factions, from rebellious priests in Australia, Germany and Austria pushing for change to the Vatican's approach to priest celibacy and women in the Church, to "radical feminist" nuns in the United States.



WIMEREUX, France : British tycoon Richard Branson, 61, celebrates on July 1, 2012 in Wimereux, northern France, after he succeeded in crossing the English Channel (Folkestone-Wimereux) by kite-surf. Branson becomes the oldest person to cross the Channel by kite-surf and is part of the fastest kite-surfer after his son who broke the time record in 2 hours and 30 minutes.

AFP PHOTO



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Adorable and affordable; 5 Burgers Aruba offers an island twist to the great American Burger

Expatriates from Boston, Massachusetts, residing on Aruba, Aaron and Rosie Walisever are living their dream: a home on paradise while welcoming all and sundry to their proud undertaking, 5 Burgers Aruba. Some may be quite well acquainted with a nationally known U.S franchise bearing the name "5", and patrons can expect the same great quality between the buns, but an expanded menu and Rosie and Aaron's fanatical dedication to giving their customers what they really want has resulted in a unique menu.



Rosie and Aaron love their Burger too



Gouda Burger 2

chance to make a first impression," comments Aaron; and upon entering 5 Burgers Aruba in The Village Mall in Palm Beach, one is struck by utterly spotless surroundings and a smiling, friendly, attentive service crew. Of course, the main item on the menu is burgers-the way they were meant to be, thick and juicy, made fresh daily and 100% pure beef, the kind that made the hamburger a traditional American treat.

Prices vary only slightly between regular and small (basically 2 patties or 1) with specialty items such as Gouda Burger, Farmer's Burger, Man Burger (almost 12 ounces of choice beef), and a Western Burger with crispy onion rings and BBQ sauce. All of these can be personalized with an incredible array of toppings, (mushrooms, jalapeño peppers, bacon, cheese, lettuce, tomato...whatever the list goes on) at absolutely no extra cost.

5 Burger portions are ENORMOUS! Aaron suggests that even their small serving of fries, which are made from hand-cut fresh

Idaho potatoes, is enough to be shared by two. He was very amused to watch a famous French chef demonstrating the best way to make fried potatoes on a gourmet cooking show and could only comment "He stole my recipe!" Try them the English way-with vinegar, and you'll wonder how you ever ate fries without it. This same 5-star chef also swears by Gouda as the best topping for the ideal gourmet cheeseburger.

If you are a fan of crispy friend onion rings, as we are at THE MORNING NEWS, you cannot leave there without trying their secret recipe batter-dipped gourmet rings, made from fresh, not frozen onions. Unquestionably, the best we have had anywhere, and for those that like a little spice, the fried jalapeños are a real treat. Aaron and Rosie have expanded their menu to accommodate certain tastes and dietary needs; they offer a tasty grilled chicken sandwich as well.

5 Burgers Aruba is open for lunch & dinner - daily hours are Noon to 10-ish; delivery is available to both the high-rise and low-rise hotel and beach district for orders over \$50. Enjoy a great lunch without ever leaving the beach by calling 586-3904. However, we suggest you stop by and enjoy their authentic, heartfelt hospitality; it is not unusual for the owners when things are not too busy, to sit and chat while sharing their knowledge of the island. Totally yummy and fun plus a great deal for a quality burger, they are definitely worth a visit

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SPORTS

Beaten but unbowed, Italy squad returns home



ROME (AFP) - Italy's footballers were welcomed back by a small group of just a few dozen fans on Monday after defeat by Spain in the Euro 2012 final but said they were already looking forward to the World Cup in 2014.

Arriving on a flight from Krakow in Poland at Rome's Fiumicino airport, the footballers dressed in suits and ties were greeted with shouts of encouragement and later attended a high-pomp ceremony with President Giorgio Napolitano.

Fans chanted the national anthem and asked the players to autograph a placard reading "Go Italy" before the footballers boarded their buses.

One player, Leonardo Bonucci, admitted to AFP before getting on that there was an overwhelming feeling of disappointment among his team mates.

"There is always sadness because we were there -- one step away from the dream, from realising something important," he sighed.

"Unfortunately we did not manage to impose ourselves against a great team. Now we are leaving this Euro with the will to put into practice the tactics that (coach) Cesare Prandelli taught us," he said.

"We'll prepare well for the World Cup" he added, as focus turns towards the qualifiers for the 2014 tournament in Brazil.

At the ceremony in the president's Quirinale palace, Prandelli said he was grateful to Napolitano for coming to support the team in its first match against Spain in Gdansk and for inviting them over "whatever the result".

Napolitano was Italy's "biggest fan" and had helped the team get over their crushing 4-0 defeat, Prandelli said.

The coach added the players were proud to have represented Italy and handed the president the silver medal they brought back.

Team captain and goal-keeper Gianluigi Buffon later presented the other members of the team to the 87-year-old president, who stood up one by one as a sign of respect.

Napolitano expressed his gratitude "on behalf of the institutions and millions of Italians" saying the team's achievement had been "extraordinary."

Results Wimbledon

LONDON (AFP) - Maria Sharapova was blasted out of Wimbledon on Monday, wilting under a barrage of powerful shot-making by Germany's Sabine Lisicki.

Sharapova, the top seed, lost 6-4, 6-3 to Lisicki, the girl nicknamed 'Doris Becker' because of her big-hitting game, with the blonde German avenging last year's semi-final defeat.

Sharapova will now lose the world top ranking having only retaken it in the aftermath of her maiden French Open triumph last month.

Lisicki will face fellow German Angelique Kerber, who ended Kim Clijsters's Wimbledon career, in Tuesday's quarter-finals.

Four-time champion Serena Williams will face defending champion Petra Kvitova, Polish third seed Agnieszka Radwanska plays Maria Kirilenko while unseeded Austrian Tamira Paszek tackles Victoria Azarenka.

The men's tournament was disrupted when rain brought a halt just before 5pm (1600GMT) on all courts except the covered Centre Court, leaving five last-16 matches to be completed today.

Six-time champion Roger Federer overcame a back injury scare to complete a 7-6 (7/1), 6-1, 4-6, 6-3 win over Belgium's Xavier Malisse and will face Russia's Mikhail Youzhny, the 26th seed, in Wednesday's quarter-finals.

open training camp, with a final 12-man roster having to be submitted to the US Olympic Committee on Saturday.

Basketball: Ankle injury to Davis adds to US Olympic worries

USA Basketball chairman Jerry Colangelo said Monday he does not plan to name more players to the potential Olympic lineup, having already gotten a special extension from June 18 until Saturday to finalize the roster.

US Olympic officials also allowed the addition of Davis and James Harden to the finalists list after the start of WADA-style random drug testing.

LeBron James, Kobe Bryant, Kevin Durant, Carmelo Anthony, Chris Paul, Kevin Love, Russell Westbrook, Deron Williams, Andre Iguodala, Eric Gordon, Rudy Gay, Tyson Chandler, Blake Griffin and Lamar Odom are the other finalists.

Any additions could come from the US Select roster of young NBA talent that is set to scrimmage against the Olympic candidates during the training camp.

But there is no assurance the USOC would allow any more players to be put onto the team at the last minute, even with the injury setbacks that have hit the American side getting ready to defend the Olympic gold won in Beijing.



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Swimming: Phelps settles for seven in London



OMAHA (AFP) - Michael Phelps won't try to replicate his glittering eight-gold haul of 2008 at the London Olympics, coach Bob Bowman said Monday.

Bowman announced on Twitter that Phelps wouldn't swim the 200m freestyle in London, although he won it over rival Ryan Lochte at the US Olympic swimming trials.

"Michael Phelps will be removing the individual 200 freestyle from his Olympic program," Bowman tweeted. "This will give him a full slate of 7 events. His change will allow him to focus more energy on relays for Team USA."

Since taking his career tally of Olympic golds to 14 in Beijing, Phelps had insisted he wouldn't swim eight events at his last Olympics in London.

But at the trials, which conclude on Monday night, he qualified in exactly the same

eight events: the 100m and 200m butterfly, 200m freestyle and 200m and 400m individual medleys. He's expected to swim three relays.

Phelps, whose 16 Olympic medals include two bronze won in Athens, will still be able to surpass Russian gymnast Larisa Latynina for the most Olympic medals won in a career -- 18 -- but he would only be able to match her total of 14 individual Olympic medals.

He will also have a chance to claim a third straight Olympic title in four events -- the 100m and 200m butterfly and the 200m and 400m individual medley.

No male swimmer has ever won the same Olympic event at three straight Games, although two women swimmers have accomplished the feat.

With Phelps's withdrawal, Ricky Berens gains the second spot on the US team in the 200m free after finishing third at trials behind Phelps and Lochte.

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Athletics: Felix to run 100-200 in London after Tarmoh quits

EUGENE (AFP) - Allyson Felix will run in the 100 and 200 meters at the London Olympics after Jeneba Tarmoh backed out of a planned Monday run-off for the last 100m berth, USA Track and Field announced.

Tarmoh sent an e-mail to officials on Monday morning

saying that she was withdrawing from the run-off, which had been scheduled for Monday afternoon to settle a women's 100m final deadlock for third place from nine days earlier.

Tarmoh and Felix shared third, and the last Olympic berth on offer, after a photo finish proved inconclusive and each was timed in 11.068 sec-

onds on June 23 during the US Olympic Track and Field Trials, which concluded on Sunday.

Tarmoh, who secured a trip to London as part of the US Olympic 4x100m relay pool by virtue of her top-four 100m finish, did not explain why she changed her mind after agreeing to the runoff.

Athletics: US stars eye 30-medal Olympic haul



Tyson Gay in June 24, 2007

EUGENE (AFP) - USA Track and Field officials and US Olympic coaches are confident of achieving their goal of a 30-medal haul from the London Olympics after watching competitors qualify over the past 10 days.

A blend of talented veterans, some hoping for a return to the medal podium, and top newcomers advancing from the US Olympic Track and Field Trials staged at Hayward Field

give the Americans a chance to improve on 2008 disappointment.

Americans claimed 23 medals from athletics at Beijing with seven golds, nine silvers and seven bronzes. But the 2008 US men produced only 14 medals, the second-fewest at any Olympics, and only four golds, the fewest of any Olympics.

And most of the disappointments at the trials came on the

men's side.

Walter Dix, second in the 100 and 200 meters at last year's worlds and third in the same events at the 2008 Olympics, failed to qualify in either after a leg injury.

Beijing Olympic decathlon winner Bryan Clay, former world shot put champion Adam Nelson and 2004 400m winner Jeremy Wariner also missed London. So did 2008 Olympic 110 hurdles medalist David Oliver and 400 hurdles medalist Bershawn Jackson.

But some of the trials stars were on the men's side as well, including world decathlon record-setter Ashton Eaton, 5,000 and 10,000 doubler Galen Rupp and 110 hurdles stars Jason Richardson and Aries Merritt, each under 13 seconds for the first time in their lives.

Justin Gatlin, the 2004 Olympic 100m champion who could not defend in 2008 while serving a doping ban, and

Tyson Gay, the former world champion coming off a hip injury, will lead the Americans against Jamaican stars Usain Bolt, Yohan Blake and Asafa Powell in the 100.

US Olympic women's track and field coach Amy Deem sees her charges spreading US podium threats to non-traditional events.

A stellar women's field set to face Jamaica's top stars in London includes Sanya Richards-Ross in a 200-400 double and 100-200 doubles by reigning 100m world champion Carmelita Jeter and Allyson Felix, a 2004 and 2008 Olympic 200m runner-up who sped to the sixth-best 200m time in history at the trials.

The Americans are expecting great things from their 4x100 and 4x400 relays after dropped baton exchanges doomed the 2008 men's and women's 4x100 relays.

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And Spain is still Celebrating



MADRID (AFP) - Spain's Euro 2012 heroes parted a red-and-yellow sea of cheering fans Monday, winding through Madrid's baking streets on a victory parade that briefly eclipsed an economic crisis.

Captain Iker Casillas and his teammates passed around a silver trophy captured in their 4-0 thrashing of Italy, unleashing explosions of joy as they toured the capital in an open-top double-decker bus.

Hundreds of thousands of people lined the route, solidly packing streets from the pavement to the edge of the bus, chased by running fans, and escorted by mounted police.

Awaiting the party's climax in Plaza de Cibeles square,

fans packed in 36C (97F) heat and were sprayed with water hoses, dancing as pop groups played on a huge stage, backed by a giant video screen.

Spaniards swelled with pride after the thumping victory in the Ukrainian capital of Kiev delivered the nation an unprecedented third straight international football title after the Euro of 2008 and World Cup of 2010.

All the squad wore red tee-shirts emblazoned with the words "Champions of Europe".

Barcelona forward Cesc Fabregas laughed and waved to fans and Real Madrid's Sergio Ramos danced in his seat. Coach Vicente del Bosque, in a white business shirt, leaned

over and waved gingerly.

From apartment balconies draped with the Spanish flag, residents threw buckets of water to cool fans in the street down below.

"Champions, Champions!" sounded through the capital.

After touching down in Madrid-Barajas airport, captain Casillas stood at the door of the Iberia Airbus A319 and showed the Spain the first glimpse of the 2012 trophy on home ground.

King Juan Carlos, 74, still hobbling after injuring his hip during an African elephant-hunting safari, joined with the royal family in hailing the victors at the Palacio de la Zarzuela in Madrid.



Princess Letizia (L), Spanish Crown Prince Felipe (2nd L), Spanish King Juan Carlos (R) Princesses Leonor (L,down) and Sofia (R,down), congratulate, from left, national football team players, from left, Fernando Torres, Xabi Alonso and Cesc Fabrega yesterday at the Zarzuela palace in Madrid.



The Spanish national football team parades yesterday in Madrid as the 2012 Champion of the UEFA EuroCup

"Spaniards are proud of you, really proud, and not only because each of you are good players but because as a team you are terrific," he said before the players joined the national fiesta.

Casillas gave the king a Spain shirt with the number 1,

signed by the entire team.

"The country is more united and people can forget their problems for a while," said 27-year-old Jessica Pino in a team shirt, draped in the Spanish flag and with a Viking hat in the national colours.